[English]

Telephone Connections in Madras

3187. SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applicants for telephone connections in various categories in Madras city, till date; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide their telephone connections?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Waiting list as on 31.1.1992.

(i)	OYT	10618
(ii)	Non-OYT Special	3999
(iii)	Non-OYT General	77228
	Total	91845

(b) For 1991–92 a target of 8900 new connections was kept which will be achieved. As per draft 8th Plan proposals, expansion programmes are being drawn with an objective to contain the waiting period for telephone connections to two years in large telephone systems by the end of the 8th Plan.

Accordingly expansion programmes are being drawn to provide telephone connections to persons in waiting list in Madras progressively during 8th Five Year Plan period.

Processing Project in Andhra Pradesh

3188. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved a Joint Food Processing Project in the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any Japanese Company has shown interest in setting up such industries in the country;

(c) the details of export oriented food processing industries in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) the incentives being given to start these industries; and

(e) the details of Food Processing Industries at present in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSIGN INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) A proposal regarding setting up of an on–shore fish processing and shrimp feed mill project with Australian aid to be set up in Vishakhapatnam has been approved. The project envisages setting up an on–shore fish processing plant at Vishakhapatnam, a shrimp feed mill based in Southern region of Andhra Pradesh and a cold storage/retail outlet based at Hyderabad linked with cold chain to the fish processing plant. The cost of the project is estimated at Australian $ 10.7 million (Rs. 161 million) of which the Australian aid portion is approx. Australian 5.7 million or 53%. The identified project implementation organisation is the Marine Products Export Development Authority.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the information available with this Ministry 6 LOIs have so far been issued since 1989 for setting up 100% EOUs for fruit & vegetable processing in Andhra Pradesh.

(d) Under the 100% EOU scheme several incentives like duty free import of capital goods, nil excise duty and concessions in

State levies like electricity, sales tax/octroi etc. are provided to these industries. Besides as per the new industrial policy, most food processing industries have been placed in the high priority list; automatic approvals for foreign collaborations upto 51% of foreign equity and the proceeds for foreign technology agreement has also been streamlined.

(e) Information about all food processing industries are not maintained centrally. However there are 201 fruit and vegetable processing units and 64 sweetened aerated water units registered under FPO. In addition there are 26 fish processing units, 21744 rice mills and 56 roller flour mills in Andhra Pradesh.

Workers Participation in Management of Indian Airlines and Air India

3189. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to implement the proposal for workers participation in the management of the Indian Airlines and the Air India; and

(b) if so, the modailities being followed in the implementation of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) There is no proposal to nominate workers representatives on the Boards of Directors of Air India/Indian Airlines at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Scheme to Expand Terminal Facilities at Airports

3190. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand terminal facilities and other infrastructure at various Airports to meet the growing demands of passengers and cargo traffic;

(b) if so, the amount allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the details of the airports which are likely to be upgraded during the next year?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Expansion of terminal and other infrastructural facilities at all the airports is a continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner, depending upon the requirements projected by the operators (Airlines) as well as availability of resources.

National Airports Authority has proposed an outlay of Rs. 142 crores and International Airports Authority of India has proposed Rs. 731.00 crores during the 8th Five Year Plan 1992–97. Separate provision is likely to be made for modernisation of Air Traffic System for Delhi and Bombay airports.

(c) The proposed plan for upgradation of airports by National Airports Authority and International Airports Authority of India during next year is given below:

National Airports Authority:

(i) During 1992–93, runway repairs at Indore and Jaipur would be completed.

(ii) Completion of Salam Airport.

(iii) Development and completion of a linked traffic extension track and expansion of apron at Cochin.